

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

In re:

FRANCHISE GROUP, INC., *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

)
) Chapter 11
)

) Case No. 24-12480 (LSS)
)

) (Jointly Administered)
)

) **Hearing Date:**
) **April 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. (ET)**
)

) **Objection Deadline:**
) **March 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)**
)

**NOTICE OF DEBTORS’
APPLICATION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER
(I) AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT
OF HILCO DILIGENCE SERVICES, LLC AS FIELD EXAMINER
FOR THE DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION EFFECTIVE AS OF
FEBRUARY 10, 2025, (II) WAIVING CERTAIN TIMEKEEPING REQUIREMENTS
IMPOSED BY LOCAL RULE 2016-1, AND (III) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their U.S. federal tax identification numbers, to the extent applicable, are Franchise Group, Inc. (1876), Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC (1225), Freedom VCM Interco Holdings, Inc. (2436), Freedom Receivables II, LLC (4066), Freedom VCM Receivables, Inc. (0028), Freedom VCM Interco, Inc. (3661), Freedom VCM, Inc. (3091), Franchise Group New Holdco, LLC (0444), American Freight FFO, LLC (5743), Franchise Group Acquisition TM, LLC (3068), Franchise Group Intermediate Holdco, LLC (1587), Franchise Group Intermediate L, LLC (9486), Franchise Group Newco Intermediate AF, LLC (8288), American Freight Group, LLC (2066), American Freight Holdings, LLC (8271), American Freight, LLC (5940), American Freight Management Company, LLC (1215), Franchise Group Intermediate S, LLC (5408), Franchise Group Newco S, LLC (1814), American Freight Franchising, LLC (1353), Home & Appliance Outlet, LLC (n/a), American Freight Outlet Stores, LLC (9573), American Freight Franchisor, LLC (2123), Franchise Group Intermediate B, LLC (7836), Buddy’s Newco, LLC (5404), Buddy’s Franchising and Licensing LLC (9968), Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC (5958), Franchise Group Newco V, LLC (9746), Franchise Group Intermediate BHF, LLC (8260), Franchise Group Newco BHF, LLC (4123), Valor Acquisition, LLC (3490), Vitamin Shoppe Industries LLC (3785), Vitamin Shoppe Global, LLC (1168), Vitamin Shoppe Mariner, LLC (6298), Vitamin Shoppe Procurement Services, LLC (8021), Vitamin Shoppe Franchising, LLC (8271), Vitamin Shoppe Florida, LLC (6590), Betancourt Sports Nutrition, LLC (0470), Franchise Group Intermediate PSP, LLC (5965), Franchise Group Newco PSP, LLC (2323), PSP Midco, LLC (6507), Pet Supplies “Plus”, LLC (5852), PSP Group, LLC (5944), PSP Service Newco, LLC (6414), WNW Franchising, LLC (9398), WNW Stores, LLC (n/a), PSP Stores, LLC (9049), PSP Franchising, LLC (4978), PSP Subco, LLC (6489), PSP Distribution, LLC (5242), Franchise Group Intermediate SL, LLC (2695), Franchise Group Newco SL, LLC (7697), and Educate, Inc. (5722). The Debtors’ headquarters is located at 2371 Liberty Way, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on March 11, 2025, the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”) filed the *Debtors’ Application for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Hilco Diligence Services, LLC as Field Examiner for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession Effective as of February 10, 2025, (II) Waiving Certain Requirements Imposed by Local Rule 2016-1, and (III) Granting Related Relief* (the “Application”) with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the “Bankruptcy Court”).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any responses to the Application must be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, 824 Market Street, Third Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, and served upon the undersigned, so as to be received on or **before 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on March 27, 2025.**

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that at the same time, you must also serve a copy of the response or objection upon: (a) co-counsel and proposed co-counsel for the Debtors, (i) Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022, Attn: Joshua A. Sussberg, P.C. (jsussberg@kirkland.com), Nicole L. Greenblatt, P.C. (nicole.greenblatt@kirkland.com), Mark McKane, P.C. (mark.mckane@kirkland.com), and Derek I. Hunter (derek.hunter@kirkland.com), Maddison Levine (maddison.levine@kirkland.com), and Brian J. Nakhaimousa (brian.nakhaimousa@kirkland.com); and (ii) Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Edmon L. Morton, Esq. (emorton@ycst.com) and Matthew B. Lunn, Esq. (mlunn@ycst.com); (b) counsel to the official committee of unsecured creditors, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor, P.O. Box 8705, Wilmington, DE 19899, Attn: Bradford J. Sandler, Esq. (bsandler@pszjlaw.com) and Colin R. Robinson, Esq. (crobinson@pszjlaw.com), and 780 Third

Avenue, 34th Floor, New York, NY 10017, Attn: Robert J. Feinstein, Esq. (rfeinstein@pszjlaw.com), Alan J. Kornfeld, Esq. (akornfeld@pszjlaw.com), and Theodore S. Heckel, Esq. (theckel@pszjlaw.com); (c) the U.S. Trustee, J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Timothy J. Fox, Esq. (timothy.fox@usdoj.gov); (d) counsel to the DIP Agent, Seward & Kissel LLP, One Battery Park Plaza, New York, NY 10004, Attn: Gregg Bateman, Esq. (bateman@sewkis.com), Sagar Patel, Esq. (patel@sewkis.com), and Michael Danenberg, Esq. (danenberg@sewkis.com); (e) counsel to the DIP Lenders and Ad Hoc Group of First Lien Lenders, (i) Paul Hastings LLP, 200 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10166, Attn: Jayme Goldstein, Esq. (jaymegoldstein@paulhastings.com), Jeremy Evans, Esq. (jeremyevans@paulhastings.com), and Isaac Sasson, Esq. (isaacsasson@paulhastings.com), and (ii) Landis Rath & Cobb LLP, 919 N. Market Street Suite 1800, Wilmington, DE 19317, Attn: Adam G. Landis, Esq. (landis@lrclaw.com) and Matthew McGuire, Esq. (mcguire@lrclaw.com); (f) counsel to the ABL Lenders, Latham & Watkins LLP, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, Attn: Jennifer Ezring, Esq. (Jennifer.Ezring@lw.com), James Ktsanes, Esq. (James.Ktsanes@lw.com) and Andrew Sorkin, Esq. (andrew.sorkin@lw.com); (g) counsel to the Second Lien Term Loan Lenders, White & Case LLP, 200 S Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33131, Attn: Thomas Lauria, Esq. (tlauria@whitecase.com), and 111 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 5100, Chicago, IL 60606, Attn: Bojan Guzina, Esq. (bojan.guzina@whitecase.com); and (h) counsel to the HoldCo Lenders at the address set forth in (g) above.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, IF AN OBJECTION IS PROPERLY FILED AND SERVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE PROCEDURES, A HEARING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 3, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M. (PREVAILING EASTERN TIME)

BEFORE THE HONORABLE LAURIE SELBER SILVERSTEIN, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, 824 MARKET STREET, COURTROOM #2, SIXTH FLOOR, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801. ONLY OBJECTIONS MADE IN WRITING AND TIMELY FILED WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT AT SUCH HEARING.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BANKRUPTCY COURT MAY GRANT THE RELIEF DEMANDED BY THE APPLICATION WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE OR HEARING.

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Dated: March 11, 2025
Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Allison S. Mielke

**YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT &
TAYLOR, LLP**

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- and -

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*Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtors
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